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anne Vachen Alsushert 4/29/05

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of : April 29, 2005

Y. Natsuyama, et al : Group Art No.: 2871

Serial No. 09/681,674 : Examiner: Timothy Rude

Filed: May 18, 2001 : IBM Corporation
Anne Vachon Dougherty
3173 Cedar Road
DEVICE AND METHOD THEREOF Yorktown Hts, N.Y. 10598

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated November 29, 2004 for the above-identified patent application, Applicants submit a Request for Continued Examination, a Petition for Extension of Time with fee, and the following:

Amendment to the claims as reflected in the Listing of Claims which begins on page 2.

Remarks/Arguments which begin on page 7.